

excellent differences, of very soft society, and great showing kind  
deede to speake feelingly of him, he is the card or kalender of Gentry:  
for you shall finde in him the continent of what part a Gentleman  
would see.

Ham. Sir, his definement suffers no perdition in you, though I  
know to deuide him inuentorially, would dizzle th'arithmetike of  
memory, and yet but rawe neither in respect of his quick saile, but  
in the verity of extolment. I take him to be a soule of great article,  
and his infusion of such dearch and rarenesse, as to make true diction  
of him, his semblable is his mirrour, and who els would trace him,  
his vmbage, nothing more.

Cour. Your Lordship speakes most infallibly of him.

Ham. The concernancy sir, why do wee wrap the Gentleman in  
our more rawer breath?

Cour. Sir.

Hora. Ist not possible to vnderstand in another tongue, you will  
doo't fir really.

Ham. What imports the nomination of this Gentleman?

Cour. Of Laertes.

Hora. His purse is empty already, all's golden words are spent.

Ham. Of him fir.

Cour. I know you are not ignorant.

Ham. I would you did fir, yet in sayth if you did, it would, not  
much approoue me, well fir.

Cour. You are ignorant of what excellence Laertes is

Ham. I dare not confesse that, least I should compare with him  
in excellence, but to know a man well, were to know himselfe.

Cour. I meane fir for this weapon, but in the imputation layd on  
him by them in his meed, hee's vnfollowed.

Ham. What's his weapon?

Cour. Rapiar and Dagger.

Ham. That's two of his weapons, but well.

Cour. The King fir hath wagerd with him six Barbary horses a-  
gainst the which he has impaund as I take it six french Rapiers and  
Poynards, with their assignes, as girdle, hanger and so. Three of the  
cariages in faith, are very deare to fancy, very responsiue to the hilts,  
most delicate carriages, and of very liberall conceit.

Ham. What call you the carriages?

Hora. I knew you must be edified by the margent ere you had  
done.

done.  
Cour. The carriage fir are the hangers.

Ham. The phrase would be more German to the matter if wee  
could carry a Cannon by our sides, I would it might be hangers till  
then, but on, six Barbary horses 'against six french swords their as-  
signes, and three liberall conceited carriages, that's the French bet  
against the Danish, why is this all you call it?

Cour. The King fir, hath laid fir, that in a dozen passes betweene  
your selfe and him, hee shall not excede you three hits, hee hath  
layd on twelue for nine, and it would come to immediate tryall, if  
your Lordshippe would vouchsafe the answer.

Ham. How if I answere no?

Cour. I meane my Lord the opposition of your person in tryall.

Ham. Sir I will walke heere in the hall, If it please his Maicsty, it  
is the breathing time of day with mee, let the foyles be brought, the  
Gentleman willinge, and the Kinge hold his purpose; I will winne  
for him and I can, if not I will gaine nothing but my shame, and the  
odde hits.

Cour. Shall I deliuer you so?

Ham. To this effect fir, after what flourish your nature will.

Cour. I commend my duty to your Lordshippe.

Ham. Yours doo's well to commend it himselfe, there are no  
tongues els for's turne.

Hora. This Lapwing runnes away with the shell on his head.

Ham. A did so fir with his dugged before a sucked it, thus has he and  
many more of the same breede that I know the drossy age dotes on,  
onely got the tune of the time, and out of an habit of incounter, a  
kind of misty collection, which carryes them through and through  
the most prophane and trennowned opinions, and doe but blowe  
them to their tryall, the bubbles are out

Enter a Lord.

Lord. My Lord, his Maicsty commended him to you by younge  
Ostricke, who brings backe to him that you attend him in the hall,  
hee sends to know if your pleasure hold to play with Laertes, or that  
you will take longer time?

Ham. I am constant to my purposes, they follow the Kings plea-  
sure, if his fitnes speakes, mine is ready: now or whensoever, pro-  
vided I be so able as now.

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Lord.